

Species	Area	Open season	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (in.)
	c. Lake Superior	December 1 to Labor day	3 in aggregate with trout	17
(e) LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS	Lake Michigan and Green Bay (excluding waters within ¼-mile of Washington, Detroit, Plum, Pilot, Hog and Rock Islands)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5 of each	No size limit
	Town of Washington Island	July 1 to March 1	5 of each	No size limit
	Lake Superior	Second Saturday in May to March 1	5 of each	No size limit
(f) LAKE STURGEON	Lake Superior	Continuous	1 per yr	40

(g) Herring of any size with no bag limit may be taken by hook and line at all times in the outlying waters.

(h) All species of fish of lawful size may be taken from the outlying waters including Chequamegon Bay by trolling from a motor driven boat or sailboat during the open season therefor. It shall be unlawful to spear any species or variety of fish in the outlying and reserve waters at any time, except that rough fish may be speared from sunrise to sunset in all outlying waters and may be taken with the use of spear guns by the method commonly known as skin diving by divers under the water in Lake Michigan. Northern pike may be speared through the ice in Lake Superior.

(2) As used in sub. (1), Green Bay shall mean Green bay, Sturgeon bay, Sawyer's harbor and the Fox river from its mouth up to the dam at DePere.

History: 1-2-56; am. (1) (a) Register, December, 1956, No. 12, eff. 1-1-57; am. (1) and (1) (a), Register, December, 1957, No. 24, eff. 1-1-58; am. (1) (a) and (d); renum. (1), (e), (f) and (g) to be (1) (f) (g) and (h); cr. (1) (e), Register, October, 1958, No. 34, eff. 1-1-59; r. and recr. Register, December, 1959, No. 48, eff. 1-1-60; am. (1), (g) and (j), Register, June, 1964, No. 342 eff. 1-1-61; r. and recr., Register, December, 1961, No. 72, eff. 1-1-62; am. (1) (d) and (1) (i), Register, June, 1962, No. 78, eff. 7-1-62; am. (1) (d), Register, July, 1962, No. 79, eff. 8-1-62; am. (1) (g), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. (1) (intro. par.), (b) and (g), Register, December, 1964, No. 108, eff. 1-1-65; am. intro. par., Register, November, 1965, No. 119, eff. 1-1-66; r. and recr. (1) (d), (f), and (g), Register, December, 1966, No. 132, eff. 1-1-67; am. (1) (d) and (g), Register, December, 1967, No. 144, eff. 10-1-68; r. and recr. (1) (e); r. (f); renum. (g) and (h) to be (f) and (g); renum. (i) to be (h) and am., Register, December, 1968, No. 156, eff. 1-1-69; r. and recr. (1) (d) and r. (1) (f), Register, March, 1969, No. 159, eff. 4-1-69; renum. from WCD 20.02 to be NR 20.02, and am. (1) (e), Register, November, 1970, No. 179, eff. 1-1-71; cr. (1) (f), Register, August, 1971, No. 188, eff. 1-1-72; emerg. r. and recr. (1) (d) eff. 9-23-72; am. (1) (e), Register, November, 1972, No. 203, eff. 1-1-73; emerg. r. and recr. (1) (d) eff. 11-16-72; am. (1) (d), Register, May 1973, No. 209, eff. 6-1-73; am. (1) (d) 1 and (e), Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (1) (e), Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; am. (1) (c), Register, August, 1979, No. 284, eff. 9-1-79; am. (1) (d), Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; r. and recr. (1) (c), Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (1) (a), Register, October, 1982, No. 322, eff. 11-1-82; r. and recr. (1) (c), Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; cr. (2), Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (1) (c), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; emerg. am. (1) (d) 3, eff. 4-22-86; r. and recr. (1) (d) 1, and 2., Register, May, 1986, No. 365, eff. 6-1-86; renum. (1) (d) 3, to be (1) (d) 2. c. and am. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86.

Register, December, 1987, No. 384

NR 20.03 Season tables; open and closed seasons, size and bag limits and measurements. (1) The open seasons specified in the following table apply to fishing in open waters and fishing through the ice, except that the department shall close the season for fishing through the ice in any inland waters when it finds after scientific investigation and study that continued fishing through the ice in specified waters would result in a depletion of the supply of game fish and that a closed season is necessary to conserve the fish supply and insure the citizens of this state continued opportunities for good fishing. The closed seasons shall be put into effect by posting a notice on or in the vicinity of the shore of the waters affected. Posting is deemed by the department to be the most feasible way of notifying the public that a closed season is in effect. The closed seasons shall remain in full force and effect so long as the waters are covered with ice and so long as posting is continued. The department may also, following scientific investigation and study, establish bag limits and size limits on the individual inland waters when it finds that the taking of fish will aid in management of the fishery and insure the citizens of this state additional opportunities for good fishing. Such special regulations shall become effective only after public informational meetings are held. The department may also establish an urban fishing program by posting the open and closed seasons on specified waters. For open seasons in specified waters see s. NR 20.04. The possession limit for each species of fish shall be double the daily bag limit specified in this chapter except that no person may have in possession or under control more than the daily bag limit while on the ice or waters or while fishing in the state of Wisconsin. The measurement of all fish taken shall be in a straight line from the tip of the snout to the utmost end of the tail fin fully extended.

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
(a) LARGEMOUTH AND SMALLMOUTH BASS			
1.a. Park lake and Silver lake, Columbia county; Forest lake, Fond du Lac county; Beckman lake and Zanders lake, Green county; Blue Spring lake, Jefferson county; and Little Elkhart lake, Sheboygan county (largemouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	14
b. Browns lake, Racine county and Pretty lake, Waukesha county (largemouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	16
c. Wilson lake, Iron county; Kimball lake, Mueller lake and Sawyer lake, Langlade county; Rockland lake, Racine county; and Beulah Lake, Walworth county (largemouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	No minimum length, except the possession of fish between 12 and 16 inches is prohibited.
d. Day lake, Ashland county (largemouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	18
2. Clear lake (sec. 16, T39N, R7E) Oneida county (smallmouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	12
3. Nebish lake (sec. 11, T41N, R7E) Vilas county (smallmouth bass)	Continuous	None	10
4. Blake and Loveless lakes, Polk county and Wabasso lake, Vilas county (largemouth bass)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	No minimum length except the possession of fish between 12 and 15 inches is prohibited.

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
5. Spruce lake, Vilas county (largemouth bass) (see also s. NR 20.04 (4) (a) 2. and 5.	Continuous	2	12
6. Little Bass lake, Oneida county (small-mouth bass) and Wildwood lake, Vilas county (largemouth bass). See also s. NR 20.04 (8) (d)	First Saturday in May to November 15	5 of each	12
7.a. Beaver Dam lake, Dodge county (largemouth bass)	No open season	—	—
b. Ripon millpond, Fond du Lac county (largemouth bass)	No open season	—	—
c. Round lake (sec. 25, T20N, R11E), Waushara county (largemouth bass)	No open season	—	—
8. In all other waters	First Saturday in May to March 1	5 of each	No size limit
(c) WALLEYE AND SAUGER			
1. Pine lake, Iron county	First Saturday in May to March 1	10 in aggregate of which no more than 5 may exceed 18 inches	No minimum length except the possession of fish between 14 inches and 18 inches is prohibited
2. In all waters of Barron, Burnett, Polk and Sawyer counties	First Saturday in May to March 1	5 in aggregate	13
3.a. Beaver Dam lake, Dodge county (walleye)	No open season	—	—
b. Ripon millpond, Fond du Lac county (walleye)	No open season	—	—
c. Round lake (sec. 25, T20N, R11E), Waushara county	No open season	—	—
4. Lake Mendota, Dane county	First Saturday in May to March 1	3	15
5. In all other waters (See also s. NR 20.04)	First Saturday in May to March 1	5 in aggregate	No size limit
(d) NORTHERN PIKE (See also NR 20.04)			
1. In all waters of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine and Walworth counties	First Saturday in May to March 1	2	No size limit
2. Mason lake, Adams county	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	22
3. Shawano lake in Shawano county and all waters in Menominee county	No closed season	25	No size limit
4.a. Beaver Dam lake, Dodge county	No open season	—	—
b. Ripon millpond, Fond du Lac county	No open season	—	—
c. Round lake (sec. 25, T20N, R11E), Waushara county	No open season	—	—
5. Lake Mendota, Dane county	First Saturday in May to March 1	1	32
6. In all other waters	First Saturday in May to March 1	5	No size limit
(e) MUSKELLUNGE (includes hybrid muskellunge)			
1. Twin Valley lake, Iowa county	First Saturday in May to November 30	1	36

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
2. Long lake, Iron county; Bone lake, Polk county; Winter lake, Sawyer county; and Big lake (sec. 4, T42N, R6E), Vilas county	Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30	1	34
3. Nancy lake, Washburn county	No open season in years 1987 to 1995; beginning in 1996, the open season is the same as that for all other waters north of state highway 10	—	—
4. All other waters north of state hwy. 10	Saturday nearest Memorial Day to November 30	1	32
5. All other waters south of state hwy. 10	First Saturday in May to November 30	1	32
(f) TROUT AND SALMON (any variety except lake trout and splake in inland lakes.)			
1. All inland waters south of a line from the Mississippi river to and along state hwy. 33, 82, 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan, except for Lake Michigan tributary streams. In addition, certain waters are further restricted in s. NR 20.04.	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	3 in aggregate	9
a. There is a special early trout season in all waters of Columbia, Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and Sauk counties and the lakes (ponds) of Dane, Dodge, Jefferson and Rock counties.	January 1 to the day before the first Saturday in May	2 in aggregate	9
2. All Lake Michigan tributary streams upstream to the first dam or lake (see also s. NR 20.04 (3) (c)).	Continuous	5 in aggregate of which only 3 may be lake trout	10
3. All inland waters north of a line from the Mississippi river to and along state hwy. 33, 82, 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan, except for Lake Superior tributary streams and the south fork of Main creek, Rusk county. In addition, certain waters are further restricted in s. NR 20.04.	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to May 31	10 in aggregate of which only 5 may be rainbow and brown trout	6
	June 1 to September 30	10 in aggregate	6
4. Lake Superior tributary streams.	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to May 31	5 in aggregate	6
	June 1 to September 30	10 in aggregate	6

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
a. There is a special early and extended open season for trout and salmon in the following county tributary streams.	Saturday nearest April 1 to the day before the first Saturday in May and October 1 to November 15.	5 in aggregate of which only 2 may be rainbow trout	10
ASHLAND COUNTY: Bad river from its mouth upstream to Copper falls; Potato river from its mouth upstream to Guerny falls; White river from its mouth upstream to White river dam; Brunsweiller and Marengo rivers upstream to hwy. 13	During the special early and extended open season, fishing in the Brule river, excluding taking smelt with gear specified in s. NR 20.09 (3) (b), is prohibited one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.		
BAYFIELD COUNTY: Cranberry river from its mouth upstream to the Lenawee road (T50N, R7W, sec. 28); north fork Fish creek (T47N, R5W, sec. 1) from its mouth upstream to the junction with Pine creek (T47N, R6W, sec. 13); Flag river from its mouth upstream to the junction with the east fork of Flag river; Iron river from its mouth upstream to Orienta dam; Sioux river from its mouth upstream to Big Rock falls (T49N, R4W, sec. 19); Siskowitt river from its mouth upstream to second bridge (T41N, R6W, sec. 35).			
DOUGLAS COUNTY: Brule river from its mouth upstream to the U.S. hwy. 2 bridge crossing.			
IRON COUNTY: Graveyard creek from its mouth upstream to U.S. hwy. 2; Oronto creek from its mouth upstream to its source; Parker creek from its mouth upstream to its source.			
b. There is a special extended open season for trout and salmon in the following county tributary waters.	October 1 to November 15	5 in aggregate of which only 2 may be rainbow trout	10
BAYFIELD COUNTY: Bono creek from its mouth upstream to its source; Boyd creek from its mouth upstream to its source; Onion river from its mouth up to Lake Superior District Power Company power line (T49N, R4W, sec. 6); Pikes creek from its mouth upstream to the Red dam; Pine creek from its mouth upstream to junction with Little Pine creek (T47N, R6W, sec. 11) and Wittlessey creek from its mouth upstream to Town Hall road.			

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
DOUGLAS COUNTY:			
Amnicon river from its mouth upstream to Amnicon falls; Middle river from its mouth upstream to U.S. hwy. 2; Nemadji river from its mouth upstream to Great Northern Railroad Bridge (T47N, R14W, sec. 4); Black river from its mouth upstream to Big Manitou falls; Poplar river from its mouth upstream to U.S. hwy. 2 and the St. Louis river from its mouth upstream to the Wisconsin-Minnesota state line.			
5. South fork of Main creek, Rusk county	First Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30	5 in aggregate	6
6. There is an extended open season for trout and salmon on the following inland waters.	October 1 to November 15, Ament lake, Lincoln county is open on even year dates only and Tahoe lake, Lincoln county is open on odd year dates only	5 in aggregate	6
a. Ponds north of a line from the Mississippi river to and along state hwy. 33, 82, 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan. Gilmanton pond in Buffalo county; Banach lake in Burnett county; Anderson lake in Douglas county; Sand lake (T39N, R18E, sec. 13) in Florence county; Bug, Logger and Valley lakes in Forest county; Hoffman and Oxbow ponds in Jackson county; Pence, Rogers and Townline lakes in Langlade county; Ament, Hanson, Larsen, Morgan, Moraine and Tahoe lakes in Lincoln county; Horseshoe lake in Manitowoc county; Cataract, Evans, Hans Biegel, Kickapoo Spring and Pinnacle Rock ponds in Monroe county; Little Bass lake (T39N, R7E, sec. 15) in Oneida county; Bluegill, Fallison, Firefly, Weber, Little John Jr., Otto Mielke, Pauto and Wildwood lakes in Vilas county; and Keller lake, Waupaca county. (See also s. NR 20.04 (8)).			
b. Ponds south of a line from the Mississippi river to and along hwy. 33, 82, 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan. Quarry lake in Sheboygan county; Esofea and Timber Coulee ponds in Vernon county and Lannon Park pond in Waukesha county.		3 in aggregate	9
7. There is an extended open season for trout and salmon on all other inland lakes containing trout or salmon except natural spring and spring ponds.	October 1 to March 1		
a. North of a line from the Mississippi river to and along state hwy. 33, 82, 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan.		5 in aggregate	6
b. South of a line from the Mississippi river to and along state hwy. 33, 32, [82], 23 and 151 and extending east to Lake Michigan.		3 in aggregate	9
(g) LAKE TROUT AND SPLAKE, except as provided in par. (f)	First Saturday in January to September 30	2 in aggregate	17

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
1. Trout lake (sec. 12, 13, 24, T41N, R6E; sec. 7, 8, 17, 19, 20, T41N, R7E, Vilas county) in the south basin commonly known as South Trout lake, north to the narrows identified as Cathedral Point.	No open season	—	—
2. Palette lake, Vilas county	No open season through 1991	—	—
(h) CATFISH In all waters of Brown, Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago counties and the Wisconsin river from the dam at Wisconsin Dells downstream to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad tracks	No closed season	25	No size limit
In all other waters	No closed season	10	No size limit
(i) WHITE BASS	No closed season	None	No size limit
(j) ROCK BASS	No closed season	None	No size limit
(k) BLUEGILL, CRAPPIE, PUMPKINSEED (sunfish), YELLOW PERCH	No closed season	50 in aggregate	No size limit
(l) YELLOW BASS (STRIPED)	No closed season	None	No size limit
(m) BULLHEADS	No closed season	None	No size limit
(n) CISCO AND WHITEFISH	No closed season	25 pounds and one fish in aggregate	No size limit
(o) PADDLEFISH OR SPOONBILL CATFISH	No open season	—	—
(p) SHOVELNOSE (Sand or Hackleback) Sturgeon			
1. Chippewa river below the I-94 bridge, Eau Claire county	No closed season	25	No size limit
a. Chippewa river above the I-94 bridge, Eau Claire county	No open season	—	—
2. In all other waters south of highway #64 (except in the Wisconsin river from the Prairie du Sac dam upstream)	No closed season	25	No size limit
a. The Wisconsin river from the Prairie du Sac dam upstream	No open season	—	—
3. In all other waters north of highway #64	No open season	—	—
(q) ROCK AND LAKE STURGEON			
1. Hook and line season			
a. In all waters except Lakes Poygan, Winneconne, Butte des Morts, Winnebago and connecting waters; in the Embarrass river from the Pella dam, Shawano county downstream to its confluence with the Wolf river in Outagamie county; and the Nemadji river, Allouez Bay, Little Pokegama Bay, Pokegama Bay and Kimballs Bay, Douglas county; the Wolf river from the dam at Shawano downstream to Lake Poygan; and the Fox river downstream from milepost No. 63, commonly known as Johnson creek in Green Lake county to Lake Butte des Morts	First Saturday in September to October 15	1 per season	45

Kind of fish and locality	Open season (both dates inclusive)	Daily bag limit	Minimum length (inches)
2. Spearing season			
a. Lakes Butte des Morts, Poygan and Winneconne and connecting waters	Third Saturday in February through the following Sunday (1986 only)	See b.	45
b. Lake Winnebago	Second Saturday in February to March 1	The bag limit on speared sturgeon is one per season regardless of the water in which speared	45

c. No person may have in possession or under control any spear or similar device in any building, tent, shanty or similar enclosure on the waters of Lakes Butte des Morts and Winneconne in Winnebago county, Lake Poygan in Waushara and Winnebago counties; Lake Winnebago in Calumet, Fond du Lac and Winnebago counties and all connecting waters including the Embarrass river from the Pella dam downstream to the Wolf river and the Wolf river from the dam at Shawano downstream to Lake Poygan and the Fox river from milepost no. 63, commonly known as Johnson creek, in Green Lake county downstream to Lake Butte des Morts, except during the open season for spearing sturgeon when such open season is in effect on a specified water named above.

(r) PADDLEFISH OR SPOONBILL CATFISH No open season — —
 (s) ROUGH FISH (except for threatened and endangered species. See s. NR 27.03) Continuous None No size limit

(2) (a) Each person who has speared a sturgeon during the open season for spearing sturgeon shall exhibit the sturgeon, with the person's sturgeon tag attached as required by s. 29.148, Stats., to a warden or other authorized department personnel at an official sturgeon registration station established for that purpose. Sturgeon shall be exhibited at a sturgeon registration station in a county adjacent to the waters where speared not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day speared. Upon approval by the officer, the officer shall attach a special tag to each sturgeon indicating that it has been inspected and recorded and the tag shall remain attached and locked to the sturgeon until the carcass is finally consumed.

(b) 1. Any person who has taken a lake sturgeon by legal methods other than spearing must immediately attach a lake sturgeon tag, furnished by the department. The tagged lake sturgeon shall be registered at a department lake sturgeon registration station no later than 6:00 p.m. the day after the fish was caught. Registration tags attached to the fish by the department shall remain attached until the carcass is finally consumed.

2. Sturgeon tags shall be available in each year prior to the open season. Persons may obtain no more than one tag unless fishing Michigan boundary waters in which case 2 tags may be obtained.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to transport any sturgeon in or on any motor-driven vehicle from the time such sturgeon is taken to the time it is lawfully registered pursuant to par. (a) unless the sturgeon is carried openly exposed and in such manner so that the sturgeon tag at-

tached to the sturgeon cannot be handled or manipulated by any occupant of the vehicle.

(3) A closed season is established for the taking, catching, or killing of fish of any variety or fishing for fish from December 1 to, but not including, the first Saturday in May of the next year, on all waters commonly known as the Chippewa flowage and that part of the Chippewa river in the following described area, Sawyer county:

Township 39 north, range 6 west

Sections 1, 2 and 3

Township 39 north, range 7 west

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10

Township 39 north, range 8 west

Sections 1 and 12

Township 40 north, range 6 west

Sections 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36

Township 40 north, range 7 west

Sections 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36

Township 40 north, range 8 west

Sections 13, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36

(4) In those waters for which a permit for treatment with toxicant has been issued, the department of natural resources may direct that all species of fish of any size may be taken by dip nets, minnow seines and spears with no bag or possession limit from the date of issuance of said permit until the commencement of treatment and such open season shall be put into effect by posting a notice thereof on or in the vicinity of the waters affected and by publication in one or more newspapers having wide circulation in the area affected.

History: 1-2-56; am. (1) (intro. par), (1) (a), (1) (f) 2. and 3., (1) (q) 1. and 4. and (3), cr. (1) (e) 1. and (1) (f) 1. a. and 2. a., Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (1) (a), (c), (d), (f) 1. and 2. and (q) 1. Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; emerg. am. (1) (q) 2 eff. 1-12-76; am. (1) (a), (d), (e), (f) and (p), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (1) (a) 3, (1) (f) 3 and (3), r. (1) (f) 1c, Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 1-1-78; r. (1) (a) 1. and (d) 2., am. (1) (d) 1., (1) (f) 1. f. and (1) (f) 3., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; am. (1) (c), (f) 2. and 3. and (p) 1., Register, December, 1979, No. 288, eff. 1-1-80; emerg. am. (1) (f) 1. a., eff. 4-10-80; am. (1) (f) 1. a., Register, October, 1980, No. 298, eff. 11-1-80; am. (1) (intro.), (f) 1. and 3., (q) 2., cr. (1) (f) 5., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; am. (1) (a) 3., (1) (f) 1. a., d. and 2., renum. (1) (f) 1. f. to be (1) (f) 1. g., cr. (1) (f) 1. f., Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (1) (q) 2., Register, January, 1982, No. 313, eff. 2-1-82; cr. (1) (a) 1. and (1) (e) 2., Register, March, 1982, No. 315, eff. 4-1-82; am. (1) (e) (intro.), (1) 1. intro. and a., (1) (f) 3., (1) (g) and (q), (3), renum. (2) (b) to be (2) (c), cr. (2) (b) and (1) (e) 3., Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; am. (1) (a) 1., (1) (e) 2., r. and recr. (1) (k), r. (1) (e) 3., Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; am. (1) (intro.), (a) 1. and (2) (b) 1., renum. (1) (a) 4. to be (1) (a) 5., cr. (1) (a) 4., r. and recr. (1) (c), (e) and (f), Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; renum. (1) (a) 4. to be (1) (a) 6., (1) (f) 4. to 6. to be 5. to 7., cr. (1) (a) 4. and 5 and (1) (f) 4., am. (1) (f) 7. intro. and a. and (1) (k), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; renum. (1) (a) 7., (c) 3. and (d) 4. to be (1) (a) 8., (c) 4. and (d) 5., cr. (1) (a) 7., (c) 3. and (d) 4., Register, September, 1985, No. 357, eff. 1-1-86; am. (1) (a) 4. and (q) 2.a., cr. (1) (d) 2., (g) 1. and (5), r. and recr. (1) (f) and r. (1) (u), Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86; am. (2) (a), Register, December, 1986, No. 372, eff. 1-1-87; cr. (1) (g) 2., Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; renum. (1) (e) 3. and 4. to be 4. and 5., cr. (1) (e) 3., Register, May, 1987, No. 377, eff. 6-1-87; am. (1) (a) 1. c. and (q) 1. a., renum. (1) (a) 7., (c) 3. and 4. and (d) 4. and 5. to be (1) (a) 7. c., (c) 3. c., 5. (d) 4. c. and

6., cr. (1) (a) 1. d., 7. a. and b., (c) 3. a. and b., 4., (d) 4. a. and b., and 5., Register, December, 1987, No. 384, eff. 1-1-88.

Note: For a complete history of NR 20.03 see the history note for NR 20.03 as it appeared in the October, 1973 Administrative Register.

NR 20.04 Open seasons in specified waters. (3) SPECIAL WATERS-LAKES. (a) There shall be no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except muskellunge, sturgeon and trout in the following described waters; all bag limits, minimum size limits and other regulations governing fish and fishing as set forth in this chapter shall remain in full force and effect:

8. Calumet county-Winnebago
11. Columbia county-Columbia
13. Dane county-Koshkonong
14. Dodge county-Beaver Dam, Lost and Sinnissippi
17. Dunn county-Dunville bottoms
20. Fond du Lac county-Mullet and Winnebago
24. Green Lake county-Big Green, Maria and Puckaway
28. Jefferson county-Bean, Goose, Hahns, Koshkonong, Red Cedar and Mud (at Koshkonong)
39. Marquette county-Buffalo
50. Portage county-Bass and Pleasant
54. Rock county-Koshkonong
60. Sheboygan county-Sheboygan marsh
69. Waupaca county-Campbell, Crystal, Cynco (Rice), Hatch, Kinney, Partridge, Partridge Crop, Silver, and White
70. Waushara county-Fish (at Wautoma), Beans, Pine (at Hancock), Poygan and Big Twin
71. Winnebago county-Butte des Morts, Little Butte des Morts, Poygan, and Winneconne, and Winnebago

(am) SPECIAL WATERS-RIVERS AND STREAMS. There shall be no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except muskellunge, sturgeon and trout in the following described rivers, streams, and impoundments thereon; all bag limits, minimum size limits and other regulations governing fish and fishing as set forth in this chapter shall remain in full force and effect:

1. Baraboo river in Sauk and Columbia counties.
2. Black river including sloughs and bayous from the dam at Black River Falls in Jackson county downstream to its confluence with the Mississippi river.
3. Chippewa river including sloughs, bayous and flowages from the Holcombe dam in Chippewa county downstream to the Burlington Northern railroad bridge in Buffalo and Pepin counties, and streams flowing into this part of the Chippewa river from their mouths up to the first highway or railroad bridge.
 - a. Yellow river from Lake Wissota upstream to the Suetlik dam at Cadott in Chippewa county.

4. Eau Claire river including sloughs and bayous in Eau Claire county from the Altoona dam downstream to its confluence with the Chippewa river.

a. Eau Galle river beginning at the Lake Eau Galle dam in Dunn county downstream to its confluence with the Chippewa river, Pepin county.

5. Embarrass river beginning at the dam at Pella in Shawano county downstream to the Wolf river in Outagamie county.

6. Fond du Lac river within the city limits of Fond du Lac in Fond du Lac county.

7. Fox river downstream from the westerly crossing of highway #33 at Portage in Columbia county and in Marquette, Green Lake, Waushara, Winnebago and Outagamie counties downstream to the dam at De Pere in Brown county.

a. Puckyan river in Green Lake county.

8. Fox river in Kenosha county and upstream in Racine county to the Waterford dam.

9. Grand river from Fairwater in Fond du Lac county downstream to the Fox river in Marquette county.

10. La Crosse river including Lake Neshonoc sloughs and bayous from the Perch lake dam at Sparta downstream to the Mississippi river.

11. Lemonweir river including all connecting flowages, bays, sloughs and bayous in Juneau and Monroe counties and the East Fork Lemonweir upstream to the highway #173 bridge and the South Fork Lemonweir upstream to the Tomah dam.

12. Little Wolf river in Waupaca county beginning at the dam at Manawa downstream to the Wolf river.

13. Pecatonica river in Iowa, Lafayette and Green counties.

14. Pine river in Waushara county beginning at the dam at Poysippi downstream to Lake Poygan.

15. Pumpkinseed creek in Winnebago county from county trunk "D" bridge downstream to Lake Poygan.

16. Red Cedar river including all connecting sloughs and bayous in Dunn county from its confluence with the Chippewa river to the Lake Menomin Northern States Power Dam.

17. Rock river waters.

a. Rock river in Fond du Lac, Dodge, Jefferson and Rock counties and all waters in the Horicon marsh.

b. Crawfish river in Columbia, Dodge and Jefferson counties.

c. Beaver Dam river beginning at the dam in the city of Beaver Dam in Dodge county downstream to the Crawfish river.

d. Scuppernong river beginning at the dam at Palmyra in Jefferson county downstream to the Bark river.

e. Bark river beginning at the dam at Hebron in Jefferson county downstream to the Rock river.

f. Yahara river beginning at the dam at Fulton in Rock county downstream to the Rock river.

g. Busseyville creek in Dane and Jefferson counties beginning at the Rockdale dam downstream to Lake Koshkonong.

h. Waterloo (Mauneshia) creek beginning at the dam (Malthouse) at Waterloo in Jefferson county downstream to its confluence with the Crawfish river, Dodge county.

18. Rubicon river in Dodge county.

19. Shioc river in Outagamie county.

20. Waupaca river in Waupaca county beginning at the dam at Weyauwega downstream to the Wolf river.

21. White river below dam at Burlington to Fox river in Racine county.

22. Wildeat river in Dodge county.

23. Willow river in Waushara county beginning at the dam at Auroraville downstream to Lake Poygan.

24. Wisconsin river including all sloughs, bayous and flowages from the St. Regis dam in Rhineland, Oneida county, downstream to the Burlington Northern railroad bridge in Crawford and Grant counties and streams in Columbia county flowing into the Wisconsin river from their mouths upstream to the first highway bridge, except the Baraboo river which has the year round season for its entire length.

25. Wolf river in Winnebago, Waupaca and Outagamie counties and in Shawano county upstream to the dam in the city of Shawano.

26. Yellow river including all sloughs, bayous and flowages from the highway 54 dam at Dexterville, Wood county, downstream to its confluence with the Castle Rock flowage in Juneau county.

27. Yellowstone river from the dam downstream in Lafayette county.

(b) The department shall open the season for fishing with dip nets in any waters when it finds after scientific investigation and study that the fish populations in such waters are threatened with imminent mortality because of depletion of dissolved oxygen or other adverse habitat conditions under which fish will not survive. During such open season all species of fish may be taken by means of dip nets not more than 3 feet in diameter or 3 feet square, but no person shall have more than 25 pounds and one fish of any species of game fish of any size so taken in his possession. No person shall fish with more than one such dip net. Such open season shall be put into effect by posting a notice thereof on or in the vicinity of the shore of the waters affected, such posting being deemed by the department to be the most feasible way of notifying the public that such open season for fishing with dip nets is in effect. Such open season shall remain in full force and effect only so long as such waters are covered with ice and so long as such posting is continued.

(c) Except for streams posted pursuant to ch. NR 26, there shall be no closed season for hook and line fishing for any species of fish except sturgeon, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass on any stream tributary to Lake Michigan or Green Bay, upstream to the first dam or lake except the Kewaunee river where this rule applies upstream to the third county highway "C" bridge.

(d) During the period of October 1 to but not including the first Saturday in May of the following May, annually, upstream to the first dam or lake on any stream tributary to Lake Michigan or Green Bay, except the Kewaunee river where this paragraph applies upstream to the third county hwy. "C" bridge, hook and line fishing is restricted to baits using a hook with a maximum gape size of one-half inch from point to shank. During this period, fishing with hook and line is prohibited between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise on all streams tributary to Lake Michigan and Green Bay except the Menominee river, Oconto river and its tributaries and the Fox river.

(4) EXPERIMENTAL WATERS; PERMITS; REPORTS. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch or kill fish or fish for fish in the waters of Nebish, Spruce, Mystery, Escanaba and Palette lakes situated in sections 34 and 35, township 42 north, range 7 east, and sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, township 41 north, range 7 east, Vilas county except under the following conditions:

1. Fishing in such waters is authorized only under permit, which may be secured at the checking stations indicated by posted signs in the immediate area.

2. Fishing in such waters is restricted to hook and line or rod and reel with fishing in Spruce lake further restricted to the use of artificial lures only and except that cisco may be taken in Palette lake by means of dip nets or seines described under s. NR 20.11 (2).

3. The provisions of this section shall apply to such waters throughout the year.

4. All permits are valid only for the date issued and shall be turned in at the checking stations at the termination of each day's fishing activities by the fisher.

5. There is a continuous open season with no daily bag limit or size limit for all species of fish contained in these waters except in Nebish lake there shall be a 10-inch minimum size limit for smallmouth bass, no open season through 1991 for lake trout in Palette lake and a 12-inch minimum size limit with a 2 daily bag limit on largemouth bass in Spruce lake.

6. All fish taken pursuant to this section shall be exhibited to the department or its agents at the checking station for examination, identification and marking.

(5) FLY FISHING ONLY. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch, or kill fish, or fish for fish by any means other than the use of an artificial fly by the method commonly known as "fly fishing" in the following described waters:

1. *Peshtigo river*—In, on or along that part of the Peshtigo river lying in Marinette county, beginning at the Johnson Falls dam in the SW 1/4

of the SE 1/4 of section 32, township 33 north, range 19 east and extending downstream to the foot of Spring Rapids in the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of section 15, township 32 north, range 19 east, with a daily bag limit of 5 trout and a minimum size limit of 10 inches on trout.

2. *Wolf river*—In, on or along that part of the Wolf river lying in Langlade county, beginning at the railroad trestle in section 19, township 32 north, range 14 east extending downstream to the eastwest quarter line dividing the west half of section 33, township 32 north, range 14 east marked by a road which runs along side the Diercks irrigation pond with a daily bag limit of 5 trout per day and a minimum size limit of 10 inches on trout.

(b) For the purpose of this section, an artificial fly means a single hook dressed with fur, feathers, hair, silk, tinsel, thread or similar material to imitate the natural food of trout.

(6) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, the open and closed seasons and other regulations established by this chapter shall apply to the area described herein.

(7) **EXPERIMENTAL TROUT STREAMS.** For the purpose of this section no person may take, catch or kill fish, or fish for fish by any means other than the use of an artificial fly by the method commonly known as "fly fishing" and with the use of artificial lures on the following streams:

(a) *Castle Rock creek* — In, on or along that part of Castle Rock creek, Grant county, from the Church road bridge in the NW 1/4 SE 1/2, section 36, T7N, R2W, downstream to the county trunk Q bridge in the NE 1/4 NE 1/4, section 31, T7N, R1W.

1. *Castle Rock Springs* — In, on or along the springhead and spring tributary of Castle Rock creek in the SW 1/4 NE 1/4, section 36, T7N, R2W, Grant county.

2. *Doc Smith creek* — In, on or along that part of Doc Smith creek, Grant county, from and including the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, section 1, T6N, R2W, downstream to its mouth (Castle Rock creek).

3. There is a 0 bag limit for trout and the open season is from January 1 to September 30, both dates inclusive.

(b) *Race-Willow creek* — In, on or along that part of Race-Willow creek, St. Croix county, known as the Race in the SW 1/4 SW 1/4 and the SE 1/4 SW 1/4, section 8; SW 1/4 NW 1/4, NW 1/4 NW 1/4, and the NE 1/4 NW 1/4, section 17; and the SE 1/4 NE 1/4, section 18, T29N, R19W, a trout daily bag limit of one fish is established, the minimum size limit of which shall be 13 inches. The open season is the first Saturday in May beginning at 5:00 a.m. through September 30, both dates inclusive.

(c) *Trout creek* — In, on or along the entire length of Trout creek, Iowa county no trout may be kept unless they are under 14 inches or 18 inches and over in length, but only one trout 18 inches or over may be kept. There is no minimum size limit. The open season and other bag limits established in s. NR 20.03 (1) (f) 1. apply.

(d) *Namekagon river* — In, on or along that part of the Namekagon river, Sawyer county, from section 3, T42N, R8W, downstream through section 31, T42N, R8W, no trout between 10 and 15 inches in length may

be kept. The open season, minimum size and bag limits established in s. NR 20.03 (1) (f) 7. apply.

(e) Paradise Springs creek — In, on or along that part of Paradise Springs creek, Waukesha county, beginning at county hwy. N. bridge in Eagle (section 16, T5N, R17E) and extending upstream 800 feet to the creed origin including the headwater pond. There is a 0 bag limit and the fishing for fun season is from January 1 to September 30.

(f) Plover river - In, on or along that part of the Plover river, Marathon county, in section 15, T29N, R10E, from the hwy. "Z" bridge upstream to the Totten Springs outlet there is a 13 inch minimum size limit on brook trout. Except for the 13 inch minimum size limit on brook trout, the open season, bag limits and size limits established in s. NR 20.03 (1) (f) 3. apply.

(g) Timber Coulee creek - In, on or along that part of Timber Coulee creek, Vernon county, from Olstad road located in NE¼ NW¼, section 3, [2] T14N, R5W, downstream for approximately one mile through the NE¼ NE¼, section 3, T14N, R5W, only trout between 14 and 17 inches may be kept. The daily bag limit is one fish and the open season is from the first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to September 30.

(h) South branch, Oconto river, in, on or along that part of the South branch of the Oconto river, Oconto county, from the Oconto county highway "AA" bridge in section 19, township 30 north, range 17 east downstream to the state highway 32 bridge in section 3, township 29 north, range 17 east. The daily bag limit is 3 trout in aggregate with a 10-inch size limit for brook trout, a 6-inch size limit for rainbow trout and a 13-inch size limit for brown trout. The open season established in s. NR 20.30 (1) (f) 3. applies.

(8) EXPERIMENTAL MANAGED LAKES (ponds). (a) Bayfield and Lincoln counties. 1. The following lakes (ponds) shall be open for trout fishing on even year dates only.

- b. Blaisdell, Bayfield
- c. Mimi, Bayfield
- d. Nymphia, Bayfield
- e. Arnett, Lincoln

2. The following lakes (ponds) shall be open for trout fishing on odd year dates only.

- a. Balsam, Bayfield
- b. Beaver, Bayfield
- c. Little Star, Bayfield
- d. Spring, Bayfield
- e. Tahoe, Lincoln

(b) The open and closed seasons, bag limits, and minimum lengths set out in s. NR 20.03 (1) (f) apply to waters listed in this subsection to the extent that this subsection does not provide a different season, bag limit or minimum length.

(c) In McGee lake, Langlade county, there shall be an open season for trout from the first Saturday in May at 5:00 a.m. to and including September 30. A daily bag limit of 2 trout with a no size limit shall be in effect. Fishing is restricted to the use of artificial lures or flies only.

(d) In Little Bass lake (sec. 15, T39N, R7E), Oneida county and Wildwood lake, Vilas county there is a 12-inch minimum size limit for smallmouth and largemouth bass and all trout. Only artificial lures and flies may be used. The use of live or dead bait of any kind is prohibited. The daily bag limit is 5 fish for each species and the open season is from the first Saturday in May through November 15.

History: 1-2 56; am. (3) (a) 28.56 and 71, (3) (am) 7, cr. (3) (am) 3 a. 7 a and 24 a and r. (4) (c) 1 and 2, Register, January, 1975, No. 229, eff. 2-1-75; am. (3) (c) 2., 3., and 4., Register, October, 1975, No. 238, eff. 11-1-75; am. (3) (am) (Intro.), (c) 2., 3. and 4., r. (4) (c) Register, November, 1975, No. 239, eff. 12-1-75; am. (4), r. (5) (a) 3 and cr. (7) and (8), Register, December, 1976, No. 252, eff. 1-1-77; am. (7) (a) and (b), Register, March, 1977, No. 255, eff. 4-1-77; am. (3) (c) 2 to 4, Register, December, 1977, No. 264, eff. 2-1-78; am. (3) (a) 69., (am) 3. and 24., (b), (4) (a) 5., Register, December, 1978, No. 276, eff. 1-1-79; r. (3) (c) 4.1, cr. (8) (c) and am. (3) (c) 4.b., Register, December, 1979, No. 288, eff. 1-1-80; emerg. cr. (7) (e), eff. 4-1-80; cr. (7) (e), Register, October, 1980, No. 298, eff. 11-1-80; am. (7) (e) and r. (8) (a) 1. a., Register, December, 1980, No. 300, eff. 1-1-81; reprinted to correct error, Register, April, 1981, No. 304; am. (2) (c) 4. c., Register, August, 1981, No. 308, eff. 9-1-81; am. (3) (a) 14., (3) (c) 4. d., (4) (a) 2. and 5., Register, December, 1981, No. 312, eff. 1-1-82; am. (3) (c) 3. and 4. intro., b., d. and f., r. and recr. (7) (e), renum. (8) to be (9), cr. (8), Register, December, 1982, No. 324, eff. 1-1-83; renum. (3) (c) 1. and 2. to be (3) (c) and (d) and am., renum. (3) (c) 3. and 4. to be (3) (d) 1. and 2., renum. (3) (c) 4. j. to be 2.i, Register, April, 1983, No. 328, eff. 5-1-83; am. (3) (d) 1. and 2. intro. and h., (4) (a) 5., r. (3) (d) 2.a., r. and recr. (7) and (8), renum. (9) to be (8) and am. (8) (b), cr. (8) (d), Register, December, 1983, No. 336, eff. 1-1-84; am. (3) (d) 2. e., Register, September, 1984, No. 345, eff. 10-1-84; am. (3) (d) 2. intro. (4) (a) 2. and 5., (7) (d) and (8) (b), cr. (7) (e), Register, December, 1984, No. 348, eff. 1-1-85; r. (3) (d) 2. i., Register, September, 1985, No. 357, eff. 10-1-85; cr. (7) (f) and (g), am. (8) (a), (b) and (c), Register, December, 1985, No. 360, eff. 1-1-86; renum. (3) (am) 26. to be 27., cr. (3) (a) 11. and (3) (am) 26., r. and recr. (3) (am) 3. and 24., Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 12-1-86; am. (4) (a) 5., Register, April, 1987, No. 376, eff. 5-1-87; r. and recr. (3) (d), Register, June, 1987, No. 378, eff. 7-1-87; r. (3) (a) 56., am. (3) (am) 13., cr. (7) (h), Register, December, 1987, No. 384, eff. 1-1-88.

Note: For a complete history of NR 20.04 see the history note for NR 20.04 as it appeared in the December, 1974 Administrative Register.

NR 20.06 Prohibited fishing under particular conditions. (1) (a) *Waters and methods.* No person shall take, capture, or kill fish of any variety or fish for fish during the closed season for trout in streams and creeks containing trout except that rough fish may be taken by hand.

(b) *Trolling.* No person may fish in the inland waters of the state from a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any boat in tow of a motor-driven boat when the motor is running or from any sailboat when in motion; or by means of shutting or drawing off water for that purpose. Casting and immediate retrieval of a bait or lure while positioning a boat by means of an electric motor, where motors are permitted, is not trolling. The restrictions in this paragraph do not apply to the waters of Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Racine, Rusk, Taylor, Washburn and Waukesha counties, the Wisconsin river from county trunk A east of Tomahawk, Lincoln county, downstream, except Lake Mohawksin the Chippewa river including sloughs, bayous and flowages up to the flowing portion of all tributary streams from the Holcombe flowage, Chippewa county, downstream, the Fox river from Buffalo lake downstream to the DePere dam and the following named lakes and rivers including their flowages and sloughs:

1. Adams county—Mason

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2. Ashland county—Kakagon
9. Chippewa county—Chain; Holcombe flowage; Long 32-8
10. Clark county—Arbutus
13. Dane county—Crystal; Kegonsa; Koshkonong; Mendota; Monona; Waubesa
14. Dodge county—Beaver Dam; Fox; Sinnissippi
15. Door county—Clarks; Kangaroo
17. Dunn county—Menomin; Tainter
18. Eau Claire county—Altoona; Big Dells pond; Eau Claire
19. Florence county—Halsey; Twin Falls flowage
21. Forest county—Butternut; Franklin; Lucerne; Metonga; Pickerel; Pine; Wabicon
24. Green Lake county—Big Green; Maria; Puckaway
27. Jackson county—Arbutus
28. Jefferson county—Koshkonong; Rock
29. Juneau county—Kilburn flowage
30. Kenosha county—Elizabeth
32. La Crosse county—Neshonoc
34. Langlade county—Post (Lower); Post (Upper); Rolling Stone

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